

SB 368

My name is Lisa Conlin and I had a very dear friend who was sick for many years with Lyme.

She was originally tested by her regular practitioner for Lyme, and received a negative result. Thinking Lyme was not the cause of all of her symptoms she pursued many avenues trying to figure out why she was so sick. She suffered from joint pain, neck issues, a swollen tongue that made it hard to talk, and swallowing issues. It took her through roller coaster ride of useless treatments, and even a surgery on her neck with no results. In fact all her symptoms were getting worse. The poor thing was in so much pain and we just couldn't figure out what was wrong with her.

When she started experiencing memory loss we really worried for her and decided to pursue Lyme as a possibility again. She finally found a Lyme specialist and, with a long wait for the doctor to have an opening, was able to get retested. After taking an extensive test there she found that it was Lyme she was suffering from. By this time breathing started to become very labored for her and sad to say treatment did not come fast enough for my dear friend. Shortly after she started treatment for Lyme she died. Her heart let out and we lost her.

My heart breaks every time I think about how hard those years were for her. All that unnecessary pain and suffering could have never occurred if she only could have been treated properly right from the start. Now many others suffer from losing her.

Lyme is something that can not be ignored. Awareness is the best tool to reduce transmission and the dangers that Lyme and Tick born disease pose to our families and the state blood supply. Please help raise awareness and improve Connecticut before this spring when thousands more of our friends and neighbors will become infected. Thank you.